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P.O. BOX 21 MENLO PAI		94026	HAYES, JOHN W			
				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
				3621		
				DATE MAILED: 04/09/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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•		Application No. Applicant(s)							
		09/648,102	COOPER, JONAT	COOPER, JONATHAN D.					
•	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit						
		John W Hayes	3621						
	The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply								
A SHO THE N - Exter after - If the - If NO - Failui - Any r	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Issions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period veron to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute eply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	36(a). In no event, however, may a rep within the statutory minimum of thirty (will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTH, cause the application to become ABA	ly be timely filed 30) days will be considered timel 1S from the mailing date of this one NDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).						
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>06 N</u>	November 2002 .							
2a) <u></u> ☐	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠ Th	is action is non-final.							
3) [closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.								
	on of Claims								
,	Claim(s) <u>1-58</u> is/are pending in the application 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray								
	Claim(s) is/are allowed.	WIT HOTH CONSIDERATION.							
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-	Claim(s) <u>1-58</u> is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to.		,						
· · · · ·	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/o	r election requirement							
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9) 🗌 -	The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.							
10) 🔲 🗆	Γhe drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)□ accep								
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the								
11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.									
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.									
	The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer.							
_	inder 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120								
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).									
a)[☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:								
	1. Certified copies of the priority documents								
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents								
* S	3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior application from the International Busee the attached detailed Office action for a list	reau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).		Stage					
14)∏ A	cknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti	c priority under 35 U.S.C. §	119(e) (to a provisiona	l application).					
) The translation of the foreign language pro Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti	• •							
Attachment	t(s)	-							
2) Notic	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>1.</u>	5) Notice of Inf	nmary (PTO-413) Paper No formal Patent Application (PT						

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-326 (Rev. 04-01)

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application was filed with informal drawings that are acceptable for examination purposes. When the application is allowed, applicant will be required to submit new formal drawings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

- 2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
 - The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 3. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 28 is directed to a method, however, it is not clear to the examiner what steps are actually being carried out to perform the method since the only recitation in the claim relates to using a debit card. Futhermore, limitations recited in the preamble have not been given patentable weight. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claims 28-35, 46 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

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The basis of this rejection is set forth in a two-prong test of:

- (1) whether the invention is within the technological arts; and
- (2) whether the invention produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

For a claimed invention to be statutory, the claimed invention must be within the technological arts. Mere ideas in the abstract (i.e., abstract idea, law of nature, natural phenomena) that do not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts fail to promote the "progress of science and the useful arts" (i.e., the physical sciences as opposed to social sciences, for example) and therefore are found to be non-statutory subject matter. For a process claim to pass muster, the recited process must somehow apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts.

In the present case, claims 28-35 only recite a debit card which is delivered to a consumer. The recited steps of merely using a debit card delivered to a user does not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts since all of the recited steps can be performed without the use of any technology. In claims 46 and 49, the recited steps of merely receiving information to initiate a money transfer and providing information enabling a recipient to use a money transfer instrument also does not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts since all of the recited steps can be performed without the use of any technology.

Additionally, for a claimed invention to be statutory, the claimed invention must produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. An invention, which is eligible or patenting under 35 U.S.C. 101, is in the "useful arts" when it is a machine, manufacture, process or composition of matter, which produces a concrete, tangible, and useful result. The fundamental test for patent eligibility is thus to determine whether the claimed invention produces a "use, concrete and tangible result". The test for practical application as applied by the examiner involves the determination of the following factors"

- (a) "Useful" The Supreme Court in *Diamond v. Diehr* requires that the examiner look at the claimed invention as a whole and compare any asserted utility with the claimed invention to determine whether the asserted utility is accomplished. Applying utility case law the examiner will note that:
 - i. the utility need not be expressly recited in the claims, rather it may be inferred.

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ii. if the utility is not asserted in the written description, then it must be well established.

- (b) "Tangible" Applying In re Warmerdam, 33 F.3d 1354, 31 USPQ2d 1754 (Fed. Cir. 1994), the examiner will determine whether there is simply a mathematical construct claimed, such as a disembodied data structure and method of making it. If so, the claim involves no more than a manipulation of an abstract idea and therefore, is nonstatutory under 35 U.S.C. 101. In Warmerdam the abstract idea of a data structure became capable of producing a useful result when it was fixed in a tangible medium, which enabled its functionality to be realized.
- (c) "Concrete" Another consideration is whether the invention produces a "concrete" result. Usually, this question arises when a result cannot be assured. An appropriate rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 should be accompanied by a lack of enablement rejection, because the invention cannot operate as intended without undue experimentation.

In the present case, the claimed invention uses a single use debit card (i.e., repeatable) which is delivered to a consumer (i.e., useful and tangible). Although the recited process produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result, since the claimed invention, as a whole, is not within the technological arts as explained above, claims 28-35, 46 and 49 are deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.
- 7. Claims 12-13, 15-17, 20-37, 44-49 and 54-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1.

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As per <u>Claims 12-13, 16-17, 28 and 44-45</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses computer implemented method for facilitating a secure money transfer transaction between a sender consumer and a recipient consumer, said computer implemented method comprising the steps of:

- a) obtaining transaction payment information associated with said sender consumer (0057; 0129-0130);
 - b) obtaining delivery address information for said recipient consumer (0043);
 - c) defining a unique security identifier associated with said secure money transfer (0043);
 - d) entering the information in steps a)-c) into the transaction database (0042-0043)
 - e) assigning a serial number to the consumer transaction and information (0043);
- f) configuring a magnetically encoded computer readable medium to said secure money transfer, said computer readable medium utilized by said recipient consumer in completing said secure money transfer (0105-0106) and;
 - g) providing said recipient consumer with said unique security identifier (0039; 0064) and;
- h) providing said configured computer readable medium to the recipient consumer (0105-0106; 0118);
 - i) enabling the recipient consumer to withdraw cash from financial networks using said configured computer readable medium and the unique security identifier (0118).

As per <u>Claims 15 and 36-37</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses a computer implemented method as recited in claim 12, wherein the said act of facilitating the withdrawal of cash by a recipient consumer configured computer readable medium further comprises the acts of:

- (a) entering the consumer transaction data in a transaction database (0042-0043).
- (b) entering the recipient consumer request into a transaction database, which may include a serial number for a configured computer readable medium (0111; 0116).
- (c) comparing the recipient consumer information with the stored consumer transaction data to determine if the recipient consumer information matches the consumer transaction information (0116);

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(d) if there is a match, then the transaction database associates the recipient consumer information with the consumer transaction data, records the transaction, and signals a financial network that the configured computer readable medium is enabled to withdraw cash from ATM networks (0116-0118).

(e) if there is not a match the consumer transaction information then the transaction database requests new information from the recipient consumer in step b (0116).

As per <u>Claims 20-21</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses (0099) a computer implemented method as recited in claim 12, wherein said acts a) - c) are accomplished via a telephone communication and global computer network between said sender consumer and a transaction control center, said transaction control center maintaining said consumer transaction information, said recipient consumer contact information, and said unique security identifier (0099, 0043 and 0124-0125).

As per <u>Claims 22-27</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the unique security identifier is provided by the sender consumer (0116), the recipient activates the computer readable medium by conveying information through a voice or data transmission (0116; 0041).

As per <u>Claims 29-35</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the magnetically encoded card contains a serial number either printed on the card or encoded in the magnetic strip (0048-0049) and wherein the purchaser may enable or activate the card by communicating with a transaction control center (0111, 0116).

As per <u>Claims 46-47</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses an automated process for sending money from a first location to a second location comprising:

- a) receiving a request for a secure money transfer from a requestor (0057; 0129-0130);
- b) receiving information associated with a recipient for the secure money transfer including an amount of the money transfer (0043);

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c) transferring the amount to a secure money transfer instrument (0105-0106. 0118) and;

d) assigning an authorization to the secure money transfer instrument and providing information enabling receipt of the secure money transfer instrument by the recipient wherein the authorization enables the recipient to use the secure money transfer instrument in automated teller machines (0105-0106; 0118).

As per <u>Claims 48-49</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the authorization includes an access code provided independently of the secure transfer instrument for use with the ATM in order to receive money (0118).

As per <u>Claims 54-58</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses an automatic money transfer system for transferring money from a donor to a donee comprising:

- a) an automated server system for facilitating the secure transfer of money from a donor to a donee, the automated server system being operative to allocate funds to a portable secure transfer instrument and to assign a security code to the instrument, the secure transfer instrument including machine readable information (Figure 13; 0105-0106);
 - b) a data storage device for recording the secure transfer (0043);
- c) a delivery system for providing the portable secure transfer instrument to the donee enabling the donee to access the funds in a different currency from an ATM using the portable secure transfer instrument and the security code (Figure 13; 0102; 0105-0106; 0118).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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9. Claims 1-2, 4-11, 18-19 and 38-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1 in view of Picciallo, U.S. Patent No. 6,044,360.

As per <u>Claims 1, 18-19 and 38</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses a computer system to facilitate secure money transfer transactions between sender consumers and recipient consumers, said computer system comprising:

- a transaction control center for receiving information from a sender consumer in order to initiate a secure money transfer with a recipient consumer (Figure 16; Paragraph 0124);
- a computer readable medium configured to enable the completion of a secure money transfer
 when utilized by a recipient consumer (0106);
- a transaction database configured to store transaction data associated with said secure money transfer, said transaction data associated with said secure money transfer including consumer transaction information, a delivery address through which said recipient consumer can obtain said configured computer readable medium, and a unique security identifier for said secure money transfer, said transaction database being in communication with said transaction control center (Figure 1; 0042; 0043); and
- a transaction fulfillment center being in communication with said transaction control center, said transaction fulfillment center controlling delivery of said computer readable medium utilized by said recipient consumer to complete said secure money transfer (Figure 1; 0105-0107).

Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses that the recipient's delivery address is included in the transaction database, however, fails to explicitly disclose that the computer readable medium is obtained through this address. Gutierrez-Sheris discloses that the recipients obtain the computer readable medium through ATM card distributor sites. Picciallo discloses a third party credit card method wherein an account holder can initiate a transfer of funds to a recipient and further teaches that a computer readable medium is either issued to the account holder for delivery to the third party recipient or it may be issued directly to the third party recipient (Col. 11, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and incorporate the ability to deliver the computer readable medium directly to the recipient as taught by Picciallo rather than requiring the recipient to physically visit a distribution site in order to provide additional conveniences to the recipients and reduce the amount of time to get access to the funds.

As per <u>Claims 2 and 4</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the transaction control center includes a telemarketing operation capable of receiving a secure money transfer telephone order from said sender consumer (0099) or a web site available on the Internet (0124-0125).

As per <u>Claims 5-6, 10-11 and 40-42</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further disclose the use of one or more of a network of third party commercial vendors who are always available and who will hold the configured computer readable medium for the recipient consumer for pick up and for fulfilling the money transfer (0105-0107). Gutierrez-Sheris does not explicitly disclose an ATM on the physical premises, however, this would have been obvious since the vendor is distributing ATM cards.

As per <u>Claims 7-8 and 43</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses a telephone communication line and Internet communication between the recipient consumer which is used to activate the computer readable medium (0111; 0116-0117; 0041).

As per <u>Claim 9</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the computer readable medium is configured by storing a pre-assigned serial number associated with consumer transaction information (0043).

As per <u>Claim 39</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the magnetically encoded card contains a serial number either printed on the card or encoded in the magnetic strip (0048-0049) and wherein the purchaser may enable or activate the card by communicating with a transaction control center (0111, 0116).

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10. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1 and Picciallo, U.S. Patent No. 6,044,360 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of March, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0016763 A1.

As per <u>Claim 3</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris and Picciallo fail to disclose wherein said transaction control center includes an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) machine that is capable of processing a secure money transfer order. March discloses a method for transferring funds and teaches that the sender is enabled to initiate a money transfer using an ATM (0041; 0042). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and Picciallo and incorporate the ability to initiate the money transfer through the use of ATM machines as taught by March in order to provide additional conveniences to the users since ATMs are usually conveniently located.

11. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1.

As per <u>Claim 14</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris fails to specifically disclose wherein the act of determining contact information for the recipient includes the act of selecting the most appropriate delivery location by implementing an algorithm that returns the most appropriate delivery location based on criteria, comprising but not limited to: (a) the geographic location of recipient, (b) the desired hours of pick-up location, and (c) the desired features of pick-up location. However, examiner takes official notice that this would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art. For example, it is known to use this type of algorithm for delivering any number of items to recipients such as business or personal packages or food items such as pizza delivery. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and include the ability to select the most

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appropriate delivery location based on any number of factors as is well known in the art to provide additional conveniences to the recipient so that he/she does not have to travel long distances to receive the item or can receive the item at any time of day.

12. Claims 50-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1 in view of Corder et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,936,221.

As per <u>Claim 50</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses wherein the secure money transfer is used to transfer money from the requester located in a first country to a recipient located in a second country (0102). Although it may have been obvious that the requestor may be capable of adding additional funds to the secure money transfer using the process as disclosed by Gutierrez-Sheris, this is not explicitly disclosed. Corder et al disclose a system and method for transferring value to a card and further disclose that additional funds may be added and transferred to the card via a communications network (Col. 2, lines 20-39). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and include the ability to add additional funds to the secure money transfer to provide a convenient method for the recipient to have access to additional funds when the original transfer amount is depleted.

As per <u>Claims 51-52</u>, Gutierrez-Sheris discloses an automated process for sending money from a first location to a second location comprising:

- a) receiving a request for a secure money transfer from a requestor indicating a destination for the transfer and an amount for the transfer via a communications network (0057; 0129-0130);
 - b) transferring the amount to an ATM card (0105-0106; 0118) and;
 - c) assigning an authorization code to the ATM card (0105-0106, 0118); and
- d) providing the ATM card to the destination such that recipient receives the ATM card enabling the recipient to withdraw funds from an ATM using the ATM card (0105-0106, 0118).

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Although it may have been obvious that the requestor may be capable of adding additional funds to the secure money transfer using the process as disclosed by Gutierrez-Sheris, this is not explicitly disclosed. Corder et al disclose a system and method for transferring value to a card and further disclose that additional funds may be added and transferred to the card via a communications network (Col. 2, lines 20-39). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and include the ability to add additional funds to the secure money transfer to provide a convenient method for the recipient to have access to additional funds when the original transfer amount is depleted.

13. Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutierrez-Sheris, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0029190 A1 and Corder et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,936,221 as applied above and further in view of Picciallo, U.S. Patent No. 6,044,360

As per Claim 53, Gutierrez-Sheris further discloses that the recipient's delivery address is included in the transaction database, however, fails to explicitly disclose that the ATM card is obtained through this address. Gutierrez-Sheris discloses that the recipients obtain the computer readable medium through ATM card distributor sites. Picciallo discloses a third party credit card method wherein an account holder can initiate a transfer of funds to a recipient and further teaches that a computer readable medium is either issued to the account holder for delivery to the third party recipient or it may be issued directly to the third party recipient (Col. 11, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Gutierrez-Sheris and incorporate the ability to deliver the computer readable medium directly to the recipient as taught by Picciallo rather than requiring the recipient to physically visit a distribution site in order to provide additional conveniences to the recipients and reduce the amount of time to get access to the funds.

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Conclusion

14. Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

- 15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- Marcous et al discloses many features of applicant's invention, however, without the need to have a card to activate the dispensing terminal
- Stoutenburg et al disclose a method for performing money transfers through a TCP/IP network
 including establishing a desired amount to be transferred, establishing a code that corresponds to the
 transaction details and transmitting the code from the sender to the recipient
- Rizzo et al disclose a method for cash transfers that allows an originator to set up a transaction using a telephone or website and transfer money to a recipient who uses an ATM card to receive the funds
- Downing et al disclose a method for transferring funds from an account to an individual and teach that an originator can transfer an amount to a cash access file which can be accessed 24 hours a day wherein access is achieved by the recipient entering a codeword selected by the sender along with a transaction code and wherein the recipient can receive funds through an ATM even without using a card to access the system.
- Ito et al disclose a method of transferring funds from a sender to a receiver using a communications network and e-mail.
- Farris et al disclose a method for transferring funds from a customer to a patron by depositing cash into
 a kiosk, providing a security code to the customer who then provides this code to a patron who inputs the
 code into a kiosk in order to receive the funds.

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• Jennings et al disclose a method for transferring funds by allowing funds to be transferred instantly to an account so that they are available to a beneficiary

• Cucinotta et al disclose a method for holding and dispensing cash upon demand at a remote location

• Davis et al disclose a method for activating cards at the point of distribution.

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16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Hayes whose telephone number is (703)306-5447. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 5:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jim Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703)305-7687 [Official communications; including

After Final communications labeled

"Box AF"]

(703) 746-5531 [Informal/Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 7^{th floor receptionist.}

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3621

March 31, 2003